

Chapter 4: Mitigation Goals

4.1 Introduction

State and federal guidance and regulations pertaining to mitigation planning require the development of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to identified hazards. Mitigation goals have been established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the State of Florida, and Monroe County's LMS Working Group.

4.2 LMS Mitigation Goals

State and federal guidance and regulations pertaining to mitigation planning require the identification of mitigation goals that are consistent with other goals, mission statements and vision statements. The Monroe County Comprehensive Plan (Year 2010) includes **Goal 217**: "Monroe County shall develop and implement a program of hazard mitigation and post-disaster redevelopment to increase public safety and reduce damages and public expenditures."

The LMS Working Group first developed a set of goals as part of the 1999 LMS. These goals were reviewed and confirmed for the LMS revision in 2005, with one minor addition.

Monroe County Local Mitigation Strategy Goals

- *Preservation of sustainability of life, health, safety and welfare.*
- *Preservation of infrastructure, including power, water, sewer and communications.*
- *Maintenance and protection of roads and bridges, including traffic signals and street signs.*
- *Protection of critical facilities, including public schools and public buildings.*
- *Preservation of property and assets.*
- *Preservation of economy during and after disaster, including business viability.*
- *Preservation and protection of the environment, including natural and historic resources.*

4.3 Florida's Mitigation Vision & Mission Statement

The Florida *State Hazard Mitigation Plan* was revised in 2004 and approved by FEMA in 2005. The Plan outlines the State's mitigation vision, primary goals and a wide variety of actions.

Florida's Mitigation Vision & Mission Statement

VISION: Florida will be a disaster resistant and resilient state, where hazard vulnerability reduction is standard practice in both the government and private sectors.

MISSION: Ensure that the residents, visitors and businesses in Florida are safe and secure from natural, technological and human induced hazards by reducing the risk and vulnerability before disasters happen, through state agencies and local community communication, citizen education, coordination with partners, aggressive research and data analysis.

4.4 FEMA's Mitigation Goals

FEMA's mitigation strategy is set forth in a document originally prepared in the late 1990s. This strategy is the basis on which FEMA implements mitigation programs authorized and funded by the U.S. Congress.

FEMA's National Mitigation Goals

*To engender fundamental changes in perception so that the public demands safer environments in which to live and work;
and*

To reduce, by at least half, the loss of life, injuries, economic costs, and destruction of natural and cultural resources that result from natural disasters.